

South Dakota National Guard Public Affairs Office

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Officer candidates to graduate at Mount Rushmore

FORT MEADE, S.D. – Soldiers of the South Dakota Army National Guard's 196th Regiment (Regional Training Institute) Officer Candidate School in Fort Meade are scheduled to graduate Friday, July 26, at Mount Rushmore National Monument. The ceremony will begin at 7 p.m. (MDT) at the amphitheater, prior to the evening lighting ceremony.

The public is encouraged to attend.

Officer Candidate School is a 58-day commissioning program for accelerated students who want to become second lieutenants in the Army National Guard. The OCS program trains these future leaders in ethical leadership, Army operations and tactics, warrior tasks and battle drills, Army structure, military history and field leadership applications.

The graduation will include about 180 officer candidates from around the country; some celebrating the completion of the entire program, the rest having successfully completed their first phase of training.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION: Please contact 1st Lt. Goden at (605) 737-6460